

SENATE JOINT RESOLUTION 7

By Henry

A RESOLUTION to congratulate Coach Jeff Rutledge and the
Montgomery Bell Academy Football Team, 2003
Division II State Football Championship winners.

WHEREAS, the members of this General Assembly are pleased to specially honor and commend those gifted student-athletes who, through their inspirational efforts on the field of play, bring honor to Tennessee and serve as exceptional ambassadors of our State; and

WHEREAS, Montgomery Bell Academy's Big Red football team is comprised of such estimable individuals; those remarkable young men recently claimed the 2003 Division II State Football Championship; and

WHEREAS, through diligence, dedication, and hard work, the Big Red maximized their considerable talents and attained great heights in their 2003 season; and

WHEREAS, entering the post-season playoffs as Tennessee's top-ranked Division II football team, MBA's masters of the gridiron maintained their momentum through the championship game; and

WHEREAS, MBA inaugurated its championship run with a 28-10 victory over McCallie of Chattanooga; in the State Championship final at the Clinic Bowl, the Big Red tasted revenge with a victory over rival Brentwood Academy, claiming the Championship in a convincing 38-14 win; and

WHEREAS, MBA's championship was driven by the efforts of a remarkably talented group of young men, led by All State player Captain Michael Fisher, (Tennessee's Mr. Football - Offense - Division II), Captain Tom Santi (All Mid-State Offense), Captain Michael Koban, Captain Charlie Morgan, Joseph Birdsong, Matt Bubis, Leonard Edwards, Brad French, Clay Haury and Matthew Jacques; and

WHEREAS, Coach Jeff Rutledge strives to produce players who are multi-dimensional members of society as well as athletes, embodying MBA's motto of Gentleman, Scholar, Athlete; and

WHEREAS, Coach Rutledge enjoyed the considerable talents of Assistant Coaches Roc Batten, Robert Black, David Brown, Edd Caudill, Joe Davis, Floyd Elliot, Matt Golenor, Jason Heitt, Micah Miller, Todd Moran, Jamie Redmond, Robert Sawyer and Mark Sutton; the team also received the unstinting support of the MBA administration, faculty and staff, as well as from the student body and parents; and

WHEREAS, the coaching staff imbued the team members with their deep love of and great knowledge of the sport, giving great momentum for the teams remarkable success; and

WHEREAS, the young men of the Big Red epitomize all that is good in today's student-athlete, as they have achieved the pinnacle of success in their sport, while evidencing the most circumspect character, both on and off the field; and

WHEREAS, the dedication, determination, work ethic and undeniable talent of this group of young student-athletes not only made possible a state championship football season, but will also surely serve them well as they pursue success in all their future endeavors; and

WHEREAS, this General Assembly finds it appropriate to pause in its deliberations to acknowledge and applaud the 2003 Montgomery Bell Academy Big Red for their success on the football field and for serving as sterling examples of the high quality of Tennessee's youth; now, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE SENATE OF THE ONE HUNDRED FOURTH GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF TENNESSEE, THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES CONCURRING, that we join the administration, faculty, staff, students and fans of Montgomery Bell Academy in celebrating the Big Red's 2003 State Football Championship, and we honor and commend the talented young men who achieved this supreme success.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that we salute Coach Jeff Rutledge and his staff for their outstanding abilities as coaches and motivators, and acknowledge their superb record in their profession and their constant concern for the well-being of their players.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that we wish each member of the team and of the coaching staff much continued success and happiness in all their future endeavors.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that an appropriate copy of this resolution be prepared for presentation with this final clause omitted from such copy.